

Governor's Advisory Council on Asian Pacific American Affairs
June 8, 2007 Meeting Summary

The Governor's Advisory Council for Asian Pacific American Affairs held its June meeting at the Michigan Education Association in East Lansing, with H. Sook Wilkinson, Ph.D. presiding. This meeting included a presentation by Mr. Keith Cooley, Director, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth.

New Council members were recognized, including Mr. Lawrence Almeda of Canton, Mr. Reginald Pacis of Detroit, Lt. Jeffrey Vang of Mt. Pleasant and Dr. Tsu-Yin Wu of Ypsilanti. Jayashree Kommareddi of Grand Blanc was recognized as Vice Chairperson of the Council, succeeding Mr. Ganesh Reddy of Okemos, who remains a Council member. Also recognized for his national and community achievements was Dr. Ananda Prasad, a 2007 Asian Leaders Association Honoree. Finally, Mr. Michael Roblee, Managing Partner of MetaDynamics, an organizational leadership and consulting firm, was confirmed by Council members as an Advisory Member of the Council. (This is not a gubernatorial appointment.)

The Council voted to accept a Draft of the Strategic Planning Document initiated in March at its strategic planning retreat. The document reflects goals and initiatives planned for 2007 to 2011.

The Business, Civil Rights, Health, Education and Immigration Committees all presented verbal reports on recent activity and announcements. The Civil Rights Committee is facilitating a Town Hall meeting at the Korean American Community Center in Southfield on October 13; for additional information, contact Council member Mr. Roland Hwang. The Immigration Committee recently provided an expert analysis letter on Comprehensive Immigration Reform to the Governor's Office. Health Committee members visited State legislators in May to speak about APA health issues.

Other business and announcements: Mr. Dan Levy, MDCR Chief Legal Officer, will speak at the 25th Anniversary of the Vincent Chin case on June 23 at the Chinese Community Center in Madison Heights; for additional information, contact Council member Mr. Roland Hwang. MDCR staff is conducting "Building Cultural Competence" and "Hate Crime 101" training across the State; information is available on the MDCR website, <http://www.michigan.gov/mdcr>.

Next meeting of the Council is August 3 in Wixom at Detroit Public TV. ACAPAA meetings begin at 9 a.m. and end at 12 Noon.

The Governor's Advisory Council on Asian Pacific American Affairs was created by a May 2005, Executive Order (No.2005 – 10) from Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, to advise the Governor and the Department of Civil Rights on policy matters pertaining to Asian and Pacific Americans in Michigan. H. Sook Wilkinson, Ph.D, was appointed Chair of the Council, which was placed administratively inside the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. A copy of the Governor's Executive Order is available on the Governor's website at <http://www.michigan.gov/gov>.